

§ 679.65 Crab processing sideboard limits

(a) What is the purpose of crab processing limits?

The purpose of crab processing sideboard limits is to protect processors not eligible to participate in the directed pollock fishery from adverse effects as a result of the AFA and the formation of fishery cooperatives in the directed pollock fishery.

(b) To whom do the crab processing sideboard limits apply?

The crab processing sideboard limits in this section apply to any AFA inshore or mothership entity that receives pollock harvested in the BSAI directed pollock fishery by a fishery cooperative established under Sec. 679.61 or Sec. 679.62

(c) How are crab processing sideboard percentages calculated?

Upon receipt of an application for a cooperative processing endorsement from the owners of an AFA mothership or AFA inshore processor, the Regional Administrator will calculate a crab processing cap percentage for the associated AFA inshore or mothership entity. The crab processing cap percentage for each BSAI king or Tanner crab species will be equal to the percentage of the total catch of each BSAI king or Tanner crab species that the AFA crab facilities associated with the AFA inshore or mothership entity processed in the aggregate, on average, in 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998 with 1998 given double-weight (counted twice).

(d) How will AFA entities be notified of their crab processing sideboard percentages?

An AFA inshore or mothership entity's crab processing cap percentage for each BSAI king or Tanner crab species will be listed on each AFA mothership or AFA inshore processor permit that contains a cooperative pollock processing endorsement.

(e) How are crab processing sideboard percentages converted to poundage caps?

Prior to the start of each BSAI king or Tanner crab fishery, NMFS will convert each AFA inshore or mothership entity's crab processing sideboard percentage to a poundage cap by multiplying the crab processing sideboard percentage by the pre-season guideline harvest level established for that crab fishery by ADF&G.

(f) How will crab processing sideboard poundage caps be announced?

The Regional Administrator will notify each AFA inshore or mothership entity of its crab processing sideboard poundage cap through a letter to the owner of the AFA mothership or AFA inshore processor. The public will be notified of each entity's crab processing sideboard poundage cap through information bulletins published on the NMFS-Alaska Region world wide web home page (<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>)